

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



294426

Date: Thursday, September 10, 2009

From: Theresa Holz, OSC

To: Theresa Holz, USEPA

Subject: Initial Pollution Report
Matthiesson & Hegeler Zinc
1256 Sterling Street, La Salle, IL
Latitude: 41.3404086
Longitude: -89.0889801

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	B568
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	TO-12
Start Date:	9/8/2009	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	9/8/2009	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:	IL0000064782	Contract #	EP-S5-09-05
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

The Matthiessen and Hegeler Zinc Site began operations in 1858 as a zinc smelter. A rolling mill was built on Site in 1866 to produce zinc sheets. Any sulfur dioxide created from the production of zinc sheets was recovered and converted into sulfuric acid and stored on Site. This Site also had an ammonium sulfate fertilizer plant which was operational during the 1950's. Coal mining occurred at the Site until 1937 as well. Zinc smelting ceased in 1961 and sulfuric acid manufacturing halted in 1968. From 1968 through 1978 the facility only performed rolling mill operations. The rolling mill was purchased in 1980 and became the LaSalle Rolling Mill. The company operated under contract with the United States Mint until 2000 when bankruptcy was declared.

In 2003, USEPA conducted an emergency removal action at the LaSalle Rolling Mill to address cyanide contamination, old plating line waste, and various other chemicals and storage tanks that remained after the closure of the mill. Also in 2003, this Site was listed on the NPL.

U.S. EPA Emergency Response Branch conducted an initial Site visit on August 15, 2008 per the request of the USEPA Remedial Project Manager, and a Site Assessment on August 26, 2008. The Removal Site Assessment identified a dilapidated laboratory building adjacent to the parking lot at the active Carus Chemical Company. Extreme amounts of dust throughout the building were found to contain high levels of lead and various other metals. Sample

analysis confirmed the presence of high concentrations of lead at 16,000 parts per million (ppm) and a Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) value of 48 ppm, exceeding the USEPA Regional Screening Levels for Contaminants of Concern at Superfund Sites and the USEPA Soil Screening Levels criteria of 400 ppm; and exceeding the Superfund Lead-Contaminated Residential Sites Handbook Tier 1 properties criteria of 1,200 ppm. Cadmium, zinc and arsenic also exceeded EPA's screening criteria. Friable asbestos or ACM was also found throughout the Site during the Removal Site Assessment. ACM that contains over 1% Chrysotile and is friable is considered to be Regulated Asbestos-Containing Material. Sample analysis found the ACM to contain up to 20% Chrysotile. Currently workers are present throughout the Site and at adjacent properties; therefore, they can easily be exposed to the ACM and metal-contaminated dust. A large portion of the Site is wooded and animals are regularly seen throughout the Site.

Current Activities

On Tuesday, September 8, 2009, USEPA, and START and ERRS Contractors mobilized to the site. Initial site activities included familiarizing personnel with the site and work tasks, mobilizing an excavator, skid steer, water truck, man lift, work trailer, generator and a field trailer.

On September 9, 2009 USEPA Contractors set up work zones, cleared debris and vegetation from work areas, constructed access roads, abated approximately 3 linear feet of pipe wrap, collected a bulk sample for asbestos analysis from white material located in chemical storage room, and conducted air sampling at four locations using AirCon 2 sampling pumps. One personal sample was collected during abatement activities. All asbestos air samples collected are being analyzed with a 24 hour turn around time.

The USEPA RPM, and representatives from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) conducted a site visit.

On September 10, 2009, USEPA Contractors began scraping the field north of Building 1943 which contained ACM debris. Approximately 75 tons of soil was directly loaded into lined tractor trailers and transported off site. Approximately 10 linear feet of pipe wrap was abated. Air sampling was conducted at four locations using AirCon 2 sampling pumps. Three personal samples were collected during abatement activities. All asbestos air samples collected are being analyzed with a 24 hour turn around time.

Republic Services, Inc removed five 15 cubic yard tractor trailers from the site (Manifest #01, 02, 03, 04, 05). The soil loads are being delivered to Land Comp Landfill in Ottawa, Illinois.

Planned Removal Actions

Continued abatement of pipe wrap.

Dismantle laboratory building.

Continue disposing of waste at Land Comp Landfill, Ottawa, Illinois.

Key Issues

Review daily analytical data to ensure no asbestos emissions occurred.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00	100.00%
TAT/START	\$22,000.00	\$0.00	\$22,000.00	100.00%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$122,000.00	\$0.00	\$122,000.00	100.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

www.epaosc.org/MHZincRemoval